

Sub E1 Cont. 7
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Add Claim 30. A method of using the head assembly of Claim 1, comprising the step of reading at least one track from the medium.

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated June 29, 2000, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10, and 19-28. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 21 and 27, and added Claims 29 and 30, herewith. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the above amendment to the claims and the following remarks.

37 1.142(b) Withdrawal

Per the Examiner, Claims 11-14 and 16-18 were withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicants request that Claims 11-14 and 16-18 now be considered, as Claim 19 is shown to be an allowable linking claim.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. 102(b)


The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10, and 19-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsutaki (U.S. patent 5,022,140). Applicants traverse as follows.

The cited reference does not teach a multi-recording element head assembly that is operable for either reading or writing to a medium. Hence, the claims are not anticipated by the cited reference.

CONCLUSION

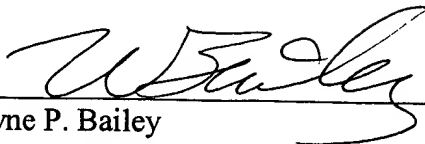
For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant has overcome all basis in the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 3-6, 8-10, and 19-28. Accordingly, Applicant requests (1) that this amendment be entered, (2) that the rejection of such claims be withdrawn, (3) that all pending claims be allowed, and (4) that this case pass to issue. Should a phone conference be deemed by the Examiner to help expedite issuance of this case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed phone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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